

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 700

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to commend Dan Smith upon being named
Director Emeritus of Middle Tennessee Electric's
Board of Directors.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such worthy person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors is Dan Smith of Wilson County, who was recently distinguished as the Director Emeritus of Middle Tennessee Electric's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, elected to the Middle Tennessee Electric Board in 1971, Mr. Smith is the board's longest serving member and has served electric cooperative members on both the local and national levels; and

WHEREAS, his roles have included secretary-treasurer of the board and various appointments to serve as the voting delegate of Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation at state, regional, and national meetings; and

WHEREAS, he has served as both sergeant-at-arms and chief sergeant of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual meeting; and

WHEREAS, Dan Smith has lived and farmed in Wilson County for his entire life; in 1942, after the bottomland of the farm where he was born was taken by the construction of the Old Hickory Dam on the Cumberland River, the Smith family moved to a farm in the Greenwood community, a few miles southeast of Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, today, Mr. Smith continues to farm there, raising beef cattle, primarily Angus, along with hay and permanent pasture on 360 acres; he was once among Wilson

County's leading burley tobacco producers and, at one time, raised Tennessee Walking Horses; and

WHEREAS, a charter member of the Wilson Farmers Cooperative, Dan Smith served on its board of directors for forty-two years, holding various offices, including president, vice president, and secretary, several times through the years; and

WHEREAS, he further served on the Tennessee Farmer's Cooperative (TFC) board for nine years, and, in 2007, he received the Cooperative Spirit Award from TFC, which recognizes individuals who have helped further the cause of cooperatives and have provided strength and stability to the cooperative farm supply system in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a pioneer in youth and young farmers' activities in Tennessee, Dan Smith received the FFA's highest distinction, the American Farmer Degree, in 1949 and served as a charter member and the first president of Wilson County's Young Farmers and Homemakers organization; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was one of the original founding directors of the Wilson County Farm Bureau, which he has served as president for the past seventeen years and as a member of the board since 1956; additionally, he has been a member of the Farm Bureau Action Committee since 2005; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Dan Smith was inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame, in recognition of the significant impact he has made on agriculture in Wilson County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Dan Smith is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, he is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife of more than fifty years, Vondie, who retired as vice

president of Lebanon's Bank of the South in 2008, after more than five decades in the banking business; and

WHEREAS, the Smiths are active and devout members of Highland Heights Church of Christ in Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he is deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Dan Smith upon being named Director Emeritus of Middle Tennessee Electric's Board of Directors and extend to him our wishes for continued success in all his endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.